

# Memorandum

Date : February 24, 2005

To : All CDC Staff

Subject: **ASSEMBLY BILL 384 -- TOBACCO USE PROHIBITION**

Assembly Bill (AB) 384 was signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and takes effect on July 1, 2005. As you may know, AB 384 bans the use of tobacco products (i.e., cigarettes, cigars, snuff, and chewing tobacco) by all staff, visitors, inmates, and all persons on the grounds of any institution. The only time tobacco use is permitted is during Department approved religious ceremonies and in residential staff housing where inmates are not present.

The importance of AB 384 is to promote a more healthful and productive work environment for employees and to reduce tobacco-related health care costs for inmates. At the same time, it is recognized that this will pose a considerable challenge for those who smoke or use other tobacco products. Accordingly, resources are provided below for staff to pursue while off duty if they choose to quit using tobacco products:

- California Smokers' Helpline: 1-800-NO-BUTTS. This is a telephone program that can help you quit smoking. Helpline services are free, funded by the California Department of Health Services. When you call, a staff person will offer a choice of services: self-help materials, a referral list of programs, and one-on-one counseling over the telephone. Website: [www.californiasmokershelpline.org](http://www.californiasmokershelpline.org)
- American Cancer Society (ACS): 1-800-227-2345. An educational resource for information about tobacco and cancer, and gives quitting resources. The ACS is currently offering a clinical trial to help people stop smoking by using the Internet. All programs are free of charge. Website: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP): 1-866-327-4762. EAP is offered at no charge to state of California employees. EAP is a valuable resource for support and information during difficult times. While EAP does not offer a smoking cessation program, they do have counseling available to deal with the stress of stopping to smoke. Website available via the California Department of Corrections' (CDC) Intranet under "Quick Links."
- Employee health care providers: Listed below are the telephone numbers for CDC employees to inquire as to what is available if you want to quit smoking:

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- Blue Shield of California: 1-800-334-5847.
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association Benefits Trust: 1-800-641-7761.
- Kaiser Permanente: 1-800-766-2888.
- PERS and PERS Choice: 1-877-737-7776.
- Western Health Advantage: 1-888-563-2251.

While this change will no doubt be difficult, your compliance with this mandatory requirement is appreciated. For more information about AB 384, visit the Official California Legislative Information website at [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov).

If you have any questions regarding the Tobacco Cessation Program for employees, please contact Marianne Grillo, Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (916) 327-3492.

***Original signed by***

J. S. WOODFORD  
Director

cc: Marianne Grillo, OEHS